



8 May, 2025

Kia ora Marie,

This update is absolutely jam-packed with stories about what the Club is up to. With the event season, instruction, and lots of work happening in and around our hut network, you won't be short of activities to get involved with.

Most importantly for us, the Banff Mountain Film Festival started with two sold-out screenings in Queenstown. This is the Club's major fundraiser and also just a great night out. Word of mouth is our best advertising, so please, tell all your family, friends and workmates! Tickets would make a great Mother's Day gift or even a workplace outing, all while contributing to the Club and our impact on the outdoor sector. See where your closest screening is, or join the online crew, [here](#).

Although the saying 'the snow in May never stays' rings true in my ears, the covering that we have right now on the Canterbury foothills is impressive. It is a great time to check your gear, ramp up fitness training, and consider upskilling or refreshing yourself prior to the winter mountaineering season. Check out our [resources](#) page for more information on many of these topics.

Thanks for being a part of our great Club,

Karen

Photo: Jonathan Coppi Alpine Activity honours image from Photographic Competition 2024

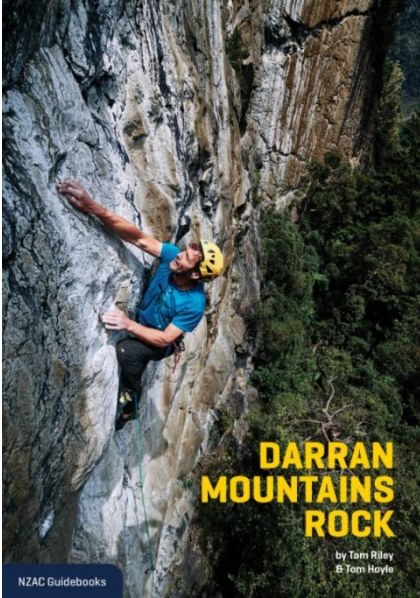
Club News



Member Survey 2025

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's annual survey, we had more responses than last year which is fantastic. Every comment is read, so thank you for providing feedback. The results will be posted later in the year.

The winner of the Macpac Voucher was Bregt Heylen.



Book Launch - Darran Mountains Rock Guidebook

Christchurch Launch

The Darran Mountains Rock Guidebook launch in Christchurch on Friday night was heaps of fun, full of tall tales and great yarns. Thanks to the amazing speakers: Tom Riley, Rachael Musgrave, Kiri Shibahara, and Derek Thatcher. And BIG thanks to Uprising Christchurch for hosting the event, and Sefton Priestley for organising and MC'ing.

Wānaka Launch

Join us to celebrate the launch of **NZAC's Darran Mountains Rock Guidebook**. With illustrated talks by the authors, Tom Riley and Tom Hoyle, and guest speakers. Come along to learn more about the area and have an adventure in mind to chat about. Spot prizes to be won thanks to Edelrid and Mountain Adventure.

The event will be held in the Auditorium at Wānaka Community Hub, 34 McDougall St, Wānaka.

The book launch is **FREE** to attend and there will be the opportunity to buy copies of the book, at NZAC member price for all, on the night.

This event is R18 as alcohol will be served. All welcome (members and non-members), refreshments provided. Arrive from 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start.

Please RSVP below for catering purposes.

[RSVP - Wānaka Launch](#)



H.E.L Porter Lodge

A work party of hardy volunteers went to Porter Lodge at the start of April and painted the roof, did some yard tidying and since then bunk ladders have been upgraded and leaky boards repaired. The image shows the bunkroom painted in the new colour and the common room roof being cleaned still in the old colour.

Porter Lodge is a wonderful base lodge to explore the west coast in winter. Just out of Fox Glacier Village and close to walking tracks, Gillespie's Beach is a short drive with views of the Southern Alps Kā Tiritiri o Te Moana, historic cemetery, gold mining relics and coastal walks.



Pioneer and Centennial Huts to become bookable

Pioneer and Centennial Huts will become bookable on the NZAC system from 1st July 2025. This has been on the agenda since 2023 when French Ridge & Aspiring Huts were loaded onto the DOC booking system and Homer Hut was put onto our club bookings. If you want to read the article posted at the time you can read it [here](#).



Aspiring Hut & French Ridge Hut DOC Bookings open on 13th May

Bookings for stays from 1st July 2025 to 30 June 2026 will be open on DOC booking system at 9.30am Tuesday 13th May 2025.

Hut fees for Aspiring will also be increasing to the below.

Adult Member	\$25.00
Adult Non-Member	\$50.00
Youth Member	\$10.00
Youth Non-Member	\$25.00



Tupiki Trust Grant Support

Tupiki Trust have funded \$20,000 towards scoping re-cladding, re-roofing and new windows at Ruapehu Hut, and \$22,000 towards flood protection consenting and planning at Homer Hut. They are also assisting with removing Murchison Hut with a grant of \$10,000 and branding and promotions work for the National Indoor Bouldering Series for \$2,300.

We appreciate their ongoing support and encourage everyone to check out their [website and consider donating](#)

Get Involved



NZAC NiBS 2025

Celebrating 15 years of the NZAC National Indoor Bouldering Series!

NiBS Round 1 launches this weekend at Resistance Climbing in Dunedin, sessions are just about sold out. Registrations for the other rounds are still open, don't miss out on an opportunity to take part in NZ's biggest annual social bouldering competition! After 15 years, 2025 will bring the most significant update to the event format and rules since its inception. For more details please read [the Rules and Event Info here](#).

NZ Alpine Club members will still receive \$10 off entry by entering the discount code on the registration form. The code is NZAC25NIBS and can also be found when logged in on the NZAC site [here](#).

- **10 & 11th May - Resistance, Dunedin**
- **14 & 15th June, Christchurch, Uprising**
- **19 & 20th July, Auckland, Northern Rocks**

- **23 & 24rd Aug, Wellington, Faultline**

We are stoked to have [The North Face](#), [La Sportiva](#), [Climb Craft](#) and [Bivouac Outdoor](#) back supporting the NZAC National Indoor Bouldering Series. Every entry has the chance to win some awesome prizes from them!

Lastly a big thank you to Erin, at [Concept of the Good](#), for our rocking new branding and website.



BANFF Mountain Film Festival World Tour 2025

Banff has kicked off for 2025! Queenstown hosted the first sessions to sold out crowds last week, a great start to the Festival. Tickets are on sale for the other regions, book now so you don't miss out.

Ticket and programme details are available [here](#).

You can buy tickets [here](#).

As the Clubs, biggest fundraising event, we look forward to watching some of the world's best mountain films with you!



Expedition Fund Recipients

The Club Expedition Fund Grant has been endorsed to Shar Mathias and team. The primary objective is a west-east link of the Spang Nala peaks above the Chelung Kangri Glacier. This includes Spang Nala Dome, Spang Nala Kangri, and Sum Nomo Kangri all in the vicinity of 5800m.

Good luck team and we look forward to reading about the expedition.



Club Hut Fund

We are doing maintenance and planning upgrades in various places across the hut network. The Club Hut fund supports this critical work, along with funders such as the Tūpiki Trust. Please consider making a donation either to the Club or the Trust to assist with these vital works.

You can donate by clicking on either of the links below.

- [NZAC Club Hut Fund](#)
- [Tūpiki Trust](#)



National Winter Courses are up on our website

Intro to Backcountry Ski - is designed for intermediate (or better) skiers with good fitness wanting to get a good grounding in ski touring.

Backcountry Avalanche - is designed to build upon the knowledge learned through an Avalanche Awareness course or similar.

Leading on Technical Ice & Women's Leading on Technical Ice - is designed for fit mountaineers who are able to look after themselves on 35-degree snow slopes, confidently leading traditional rock climbs, have good rope management skills and experience of camping in snow.

Glacier Ski Course - is designed for strong intermediate (or better) skiers with experience skiing in steep slackcountry/backcountry terrain and with excellent aerobic fitness wanting to learn the core skills to safely ski on glaciated terrain. This is not a 'learn to ski' course.

High Alpine Skills & Walk In/Out High Alpine Skills - is designed for enthusiastic intermediate mountaineers who are looking to learn the skills to travel safely on glaciated terrain and lead climbs on New Zealand's high alpine peaks.

For more information and to register click [here](#).



Board Elections 2025

The nominations for Board candidates will open at the end of this month. Please have a think about who you would like to see on the Board, where we are strong and where you would like to see better representation. For more information on being on the Board, contact the President, Jim Petersen. Contact and Board Responsibilities can be read [here](#).

Community



Member Discounts

Member Discounts for 2025 are being updated and we are grateful to have the support of so many retailers, service providers and climbing gyms.

Many have been supporters for years and often also sponsor Club events, such as The North Face, Further Faster, Aspiring Safety, Bivouac, Uprising, Basecamp Adventures, Hangdog, Northern Rocks

You can see what is available for members [here](#)



Tūpiki Trust Update

The Tūpiki Trust is a great supporter of the Alpine Club, and in their most recent Grants Round approved funding for three Club projects. You can read about these three, and lots of other information, in their latest newsletter on Trust's website at www.tupikitrust.org.nz. While you're there on the website, they'd like you to take a few minutes to complete an online survey to guide their planning. What do you know about the Tūpiki Trust? What do you think about what they've do so far? And what should they be aiming at for the next few years? You'll see the "Your thoughts please" button on their home page.



ACAT Pine Pulling at Flock Hill

A massive thank you to everyone who showed up on ANZAC Weekend at Flock Hill.

Around 45 legends come out—more than double the crew from last time—and together we reckon we pulled about 10,000 wilding pines. Unreal effort!

Huge thanks to Flock Hill Station for continuing to let us climb at this epic spot, to Uprising for hooking us up with some sweet prizes, and to Ray from WELRA for supplying all the tools we needed to get the job done. And a special shoutout to WELRA for backing the mahi with a \$1,000 donation towards the day! That money is going straight into a crag care fund to support future conservation projects and

maintenance at Flock Hill.

You can still get involved. Flick a \$20 donation to ACAT to support access and conservation or just pack a pair of loppers next time you're out bouldering and pull a few pines while you're there. Every little bit helps.

Don't forget to catch up on all our other news, reviews and info on our website [here](#).

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